

**Don Mellody**  
**ERate Coordinator**  
**Strategic Operations**  
100 N. University Dr., Fort Worth, Texas 76107  
Office 817.814.3087 FAX 817.814.3009  
www.fwisd.org



March 6, 2015

FCC, Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Madame Secretary:

I am submitting this letter to appeal Universal Service Administration Company's School and Libraries division Funding Commitment Decision Letter denying a request for Priority I Internet Service for 2015 – 2016. The USAC Form 471 is 987640 and the FRN is 2694275. The facts are found below.

Appellant Contact:	Fort Worth Independent School District Don Mellody, E-Rate Coordinator 100 North University Fort Worth, Texas 76107-1360 Phone: (817) 814-3087 Fax: (817) 814-3006 Email: <a href="mailto:don.mellody@fwisd.org">don.mellody@fwisd.org</a>
Appellant Alternate:	Aaron Stone, Dir. Strategic Operations 100 North University Fort Worth, Texas 76107-1360 Phone: (817) 814-3087 Fax: (817) 814-3006 Email: <a href="mailto:aaron.stone@fwisd.org">aaron.stone@fwisd.org</a>
Billed Entity Number:	140887
Billed Entity:	Fort Worth Independent School District
Service Provider Number:	143005817
Service Provider:	Charter Communications

This appeal is based on the following information:

1. We believe the PIA Reviewer wrongly calculated the discount rate at 86%. The Block IV included in this application contains the same entities and NSLP data as in Application **471 990657** and **FRN 2703234 – 2703237**. The discount rate for all these FRNs was set at 87%.
2. FCDL states "...Applicant has not provided sufficient documentation to support gigabit broadband service." On September 23, 2014 the PIA Reviewer submitted a letter requesting more detailed documentation. The letter states "It is important that we receive all of the information within 15 calendar days..." the letter goes on to state "If we do not receive the requested information by 09/23/2014, your application(s) will be reviewed using the

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information currently on file. We were not given the 15 days as stated in the letter. A copy of the letter is attached

3. **Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** - At the close of a review phone call with Robin Greatorex, I asked if there was any additional application information needed. At that time I was told no.
4. **Monday October 6<sup>th</sup>** - I called Lorena McLean. The purpose of my call was to confirm all necessary information had been provided. At that time I was told no they didn't have documentation for Application **987640** and **989393**. The application would be denied and I would have to file an appeal. I have also enclosed a copy of my response to the last set of questions I was told was not needed. Please note my response was prepared and ready on September 28<sup>th</sup>

Thank you for this opportunity to request a review of staff's decision to deny this application. If you have any additional questions please call. I look forward to the talking with you and explaining my view of this most recent PIA review.

Sincerely,

**Don Mellody, ERate Coordinator**

Enclosure: Letter dated September 28, 2014



Schools and Libraries Division

### FY 2014E-rate Application Information Request

September 8, 2014

Contact Name: Don Mellody  
Applicant Name: FORT WORTH INDEP SCH DISTRICT  
FCC Form 471 Application Number(s): 987640  
**Response Due Date: 09/23/2014**

Dear Applicant:

The Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) team is in the process of reviewing your Funding Year 2014 FCC Form 471 Applications for E-rate discounts. To complete our review, we need additional information, which is listed below.

#### *Issue*

Based on the documentation that you have provided during the review of your Funding Year **2014** FCC Form 471 application **987640** for FRN **2694275** it is not sufficient to determine the eligibility of your request. The documentation does not clearly identify the products and services being requested in this FRN.

For additional information on service categories, please refer to the USAC website at:  
<http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/beforeyoubegin/eligible-services-list.aspx>

#### *Questions*

To assist us in the review of your application, we need the following information:

1. **Please provide more detailed documentation that identifies the actual products and services being requested. Your documentation should identify the specific products and services such as make, model, and description of the product and service being delivered.**
2. If you do not have this information, you will need to contact your vendor and request such documentation. The vendor should be able to provide you with detailed documentation regarding the products and services you are requesting. Examples of supporting documentation are contracts, vendor quotes, vendor bills, invoices, etc.

Please submit the necessary information within the 15 calendar day deadline of this request. Failure to respond may result in the denial or reduction of your funding request(s).

#### *Response Reminders*

Please email or fax the requested information to my attention. If you have any questions or you do not understand what we are requesting, please feel free to contact me.

PIA Information Request  
Page 2 of 2  
**Response due: 09/23/2014**

It is important that we receive all of the information requested **within 15 calendar days** so we can complete our review of your application(s). **Failure to send all of the information requested may result in a reduction or denial of funding. If you need additional time to prepare your response, please let me know as soon as possible.**

Should you wish to cancel your FCC Form 471 application(s), or any of your individual funding requests, please clearly indicate in your response that it is your intention to cancel an application or funding request(s). Include in any cancellation request the FCC Form 471 application number(s) and/or funding request number(s), and the complete name, title and signature of the authorized individual.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of the Universal Service Program.

Sincerely,

**Lorena McLean**  
**Associate Manager, PIA Reviewer**  
30 Lanidex Plaza West | Parsippany, NJ 07054  
T: 973.581.7580 | F: 973.599.6513  
**[lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org](mailto:lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org)**



Schools and Libraries Division

### FY 2014E-rate Application Information Request

September 15, 2014

Contact Name: Don Mellody

Applicant Name: FORT WORTH INDEP SCH DISTRICT

FCC Form 471 Application Number(s): 987640 Charter

Response Due Date: 09/23/2014

Dear Applicant:

You were recently sent a request for additional information needed by the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) team to review your Funding Year 2014 FCC Form 471 Applications for E-rate discounts. This is a reminder that your response due date is approaching. The documentation we received regarding your FRN(s) was incomplete. Please respond to the following questions in their entirety. If you feel you have responded to the question already or you need a further explanation, please feel free to contact me.

#### *Issue*

Based on the documentation that you have provided during the review of your Funding Year 2014 FCC Form 471 application 987640 for FRN 2694275 it is not sufficient to determine the eligibility of your request. The documentation does not clearly identify the products and services being requested in this FRN.

For additional information on service categories, please refer to the USAC website at:

<http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/beforeyoubegin/eligible-services-list.aspx>

#### *Questions*

To assist us in the review of your application, we need the following information:

1. Please provide more detailed documentation that identifies the actual products and services being requested. Your documentation should identify the specific products and services such as make, model, and description of the product and service being delivered.
2. If you do not have this information, you will need to contact your vendor and request such documentation. The vendor should be able to provide you with detailed documentation regarding the products and services you are requesting. Examples of supporting documentation are contracts, vendor quotes, vendor bills, invoices, etc.

Please submit the necessary information within the 15 calendar day deadline of this request. Failure to respond may result in the denial or reduction of your funding request(s).

PIA Information Request

Page 2 of 2

**Response due: 09/23/2014**

*Response Reminders*

Please e-mail or fax the requested information to my attention. If you have any questions or you do not understand what we are requesting, please feel free to contact me.

It is important that we receive all of the information requested **within 15 calendar days** so we can complete our review of your application(s). **Failure to send all of the information requested may result in a reduction or denial of funding.**

**If we do not receive the information by 09/23/2014 your application will be reviewed using the information currently on file. If you need additional time to prepare your response, please let me know as soon as possible.**

Should you wish to cancel your FCC Form 471 application(s), or any of your individual funding requests, please clearly indicate in your response that it is your intention to cancel an application or funding request(s); along with the FCC Form 471 application number(s) and/or funding request number(s), and the complete name, title and signature of the authorized individual.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of the Universal Service Program.

Sincerely,

**Lorena McLean**

**Associate Manager, PIA Reviewer**

30 Lanidex Plaza West | Parsippany, NJ 07054

T: 973.581.7580 | F: 973.599.6513

**[lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org](mailto:lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org)**



Schools and Libraries Division

**FY 2014E-rate Application Information Request**

September 23, 2014

Contact Name: Don Mellody

Applicant Name: FORT WORTH INDEP SCH DISTRICT

FCC Form 471 Application Number(s): 987640

Charter

**Response Due Date: 09/23/2014**

Dear Applicant:

You were recently sent a written request for additional information needed by the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) team to review your Funding Year 2014 FCC Form 471 Applications for E-rate discounts. This is a reminder that the response due date is approaching. To date, none of the requested information has been received. The information needed to complete the review is listed below.

*Issue*

Based on the documentation that you have provided during the review of your Funding Year 2014 FCC Form 471 application 987640 for FRN 2694275 it is not sufficient to determine the eligibility of your request. The documentation does not clearly identify the products and services being requested in this FRN.

For additional information on service categories, please refer to the USAC website at:

<http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/beforeyoubegin/eligible-services-list.aspx>

*Questions*

To assist us in the review of your application, we need the following information:

1. Please provide more detailed documentation that identifies the actual products and services being requested. Your documentation should identify the specific products and services such as make, model, and description of the product and service being delivered.
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Please submit the necessary information within the 15 calendar day deadline of this request. Failure to respond may result in the denial or reduction of your funding request(s).

*Response Reminders*

Please email or fax the requested information to my attention. If you have any questions or you do not understand what we are requesting, please feel free to contact me.

PIA Information Request

Page 2 of 2

**Response due: 09/23/2014**

It is important that we receive all of the information requested **within 15 calendar days** so we can complete our review of your application(s). **If we do not receive the requested information by 09/23/2014, your application(s) will be reviewed using the information currently on file. Failure to send all of the information requested may result in a reduction or denial of funding. If you need additional time to prepare your response, please let me know as soon as possible.**

Should you wish to cancel your FCC Form 471 application, or any of your individual funding requests, please clearly indicate in your response that it is your intention to cancel an application or funding request(s); along with the FCC Form 471 application number(s) and/or funding request number(s), and the complete name, title and signature of the authorized individual.

A copy of this correspondence is being forwarded to your State E-rate Coordinator for informational purposes only.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of the Universal Service Program.

Sincerely,

**Lorena McLean**

**Associate Manager, PIA Reviewer**

30 Lanidex Plaza West | Parsippany, NJ 07054

T: 973.581.7580 | F: 973.599.6513

**[lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org](mailto:lorena.mclean@sl.universalservice.org)**



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**FY 2014 E-rate Application Information Response**

September 28, 2014

Lorena McLean  
Assoc. Mgr. PIA Review  
30 Lanidex Plaza West  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Dear Lorena:

Below I have included my response to your questions in **RED**.

Based on the documentation that you have provided during the review of your Funding Year **2014** FCC Form 471 application **987640** for FRN **2694275** it is not sufficient to determine the eligibility of your request. The documentation does not clearly identify the products and services being requested in this FRN.

**Questions**

To assist us in the review of your application, we need the following information:

1. Please provide more detailed documentation that identifies the actual products and services being requested. Your documentation should identify the specific products and services such as make, model, and description of the product and service being delivered.

Don Mellody,  
FWISD E-Rate Coordinator

SPIN	143005817
SERVICE PROVIDER NAME	Charter Communications
FUNDING CATEGORY	Internet Access
INTERNET CATEGORY	Broadband, Basic Conduit Access to the Internet Access
QUANTITY	1
TRANSMISSION CAPACITY	2 Gigabit Broadband Service
COST	\$21,100.00

**Y15 IA CHARTER PRICING 2012-2013**  
**RFP 12-087 Bid Price Submitted 12/5/2011**

Units/Qty Recurring Costs	Description	Monthly Price
<u>1</u>	<u>1 Gbps Internet Access / month</u>	<u>\$ 12,970.00</u>
	<b>INCREMENTAL BANDWIDTH UPGRADES</b>	
1	250 Additional Mbps of bandwidth / month (1250 Mbps)	\$15,525.00
1	500 Additional Mbps of bandwidth / month (1500 Mbps)	\$17,760.00
1	750 Additional Mbps of bandwidth / month (1750 Mbps)	\$19,635.00
1	1000 Gbps Additional Mbps of bandwidth / month (2000 Mbps)	\$21,100.00

Ph. (951)712-2284

Ed V. Ferrer  
Acct. Executive – K-12 and Higher Education  
California and Texas Markets